American Women Missionaries and Pioneers Collection

Part 1: Missionaries

The Irene Forsythe Hanson Papers, 1921-1980

Series I

Correspondence
(Incoming and outgoing intermixed)

Folder Description:

Correspondence,
March 30, 1936–June 20, 1936

Box Number:	***Folder Number:***
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March 30, 1936
Wan Hsien, Szechwan

Dear Mumie:

I am taking a moment this A.M. to write a letter to you. The girls have gone out to the little building which is "church" for the present. We came here Saturday & will leave April 1st to go to our village & return to Wanhsien for classes. Take in our few garments & get ready to settle out there for the present. Spring is rather late, we've had such cold weather. The winter is unusually long. Big snows in Manchuria & Mongolia. Dates are maturing late - have letters telling of late storms, too. All say it has been an unusually cold winter. Thanks to our having taken warm clothes & bedding we've had food & shelter & a warm room at the time. We're so much to praise Him for! The coats brought us quite a bit of money. Didn't had a chance to write before - ten days ago sent a letter written while coats was in Wanhsien shop & reaches you all right!

Will the cold tone you requested regarding the fur garment bring it over?

2 wearing your Chinese garment to get up in. He said mama to build a fire etc. Is that garment cruel? What matter, one? Furs this year cheaper. Would you like a light fur lined long garment one that you can wear around the house all day? They are just deliciously warm! Your heavy coat fur lined was heavy. How about a light slate color over wearing suit fur lining? I get such joy from my big fur-lined rear coat. It is made same style as the Chinese garments but bigger. It is my winter bath robe as well as over coat & I praise God almost daily for it! Would you like me to make the same style as yours cotton padded one. What color would you like. The rat fantail is very pretty like it. I'll get it made in the summer. Do I should buy the fur now I'll see when I go in. Yes that apartment in N.Y. was surely warm & comfy! Not long ago I was thinking of the struggle with that furnace at Rutherford & how we went to the Seminary those days to get a warm room. The Board letter tells of

3 a new missionary home in New York - especially
since for returned Presbyterian missionaries
in a legacy of Mrs. John Kennedy, at 70 1
Fourth Park, just West of where we
lived cross Park Avenue as I recall.
Three upper floors - for single missionaries +
families with
one, who desire to spend furlo time
here - also rooms for transients. Isn't that
nice? Will ye have a trip abroad yet
some? Likely not have much trouble to
find a spot to live in. Hope that your
new tenants won't be so
I'm sorry about the Roslyn church condition
& the division. Dr Wm Hiram Foote is a
& their luncheon. His being a friend of Mackenzie's
accounts for some of his attitude & expectations
girls. His son a minister, had him as teacher,
in Seminary. Shy says he's fine except he is
terribly dogmatic on hair-splitting questions
of no vital importance & is in continual argument
with other fundamentalists over! Yet he is
sincere & earnest as can be & just feels
that he is "defending the faith". In other
things has a beautiful spirit - except
re doctrines! I'm sure the Master approves
of his earnestness & sincerity that cannot

I'm sure that he will approve of his
plans in every little detail. I wonder if
the Roseburg church pays will it take the
whole S. W. Presbyterial — I'm sorry —
personally it has been a sweet relationship
& I've felt I represented them. I'm not worried
personally about this withdrawing my support
that is incidental, for God will provide from
another source — I'm sure of that; but it
seems too bad for them to disrupt what
is already being done — not by modernism
by old school. That evidently is the reason
I've sent so many gifts direct to me
just in the mail another Board notice
of $9.80 gift of S.S. designated to me from
them. Also one of $6. from Woodburn.
These gifts go to Irvington station budget.
From Mrs. Scott's card one can see the hurt
& spirit of the church about it. My, but it will be
wonderful when Jesus comes back & in
the light of His full truth & love all of the
errors & mistaken ideas & prejudices
& beliefs will just take their proper relation-
ship or melt away & we'll all see clearly

So much is like the arguments of the blind men over the elephant — all are partly right — & partly wrong. I have never had a letter from the Rosebury pastor — I guess I could locate his name someplace — maybe I should write him — not taking any part in their discussion at all — but just in friendliness. I'll pray about it —

I'll try to mail something to Mosely when I go in. Silas & his stork class is funny! I'm sure they are copying his teaching Rev. We've had a good time at each of the places exploring the lords return & it has been a blessing to us too. My, but world events seem to point all the more to our great hope!

Minnie dear 10 years — It don't seem possible! Yes I remembered here — sorry not to have had a gift then — I should for the 10th birthday. Alice made mud to celebrate mine — mine daughter's make. Yes I'll enter day letter ITE and see how we get — We were there one day when Yours 2nd birthday — we felt the poor girl that he was not there.

Yes. Mother I get Women's Mission Book of Prayer free each year! I'm sure you get more China news than we do. Ha they sent me a pack of newspapers which I've not had time to go thru. Mr. Dan Lewis is very thoughtful — he often sends me a typed sheet just summaries of news of all the world. Some reading at time — Yes, mother dear has gone. Somehow, I'd rayle sentiment but I like to think that she has seen Daddy Si & talked with him. In wearing white shoes of mourning — is the proper thing. When we all talked it over it was decided to carry out just what I would — even tho I still have you my Mumie dear. But even so it is all right because we foreigners do not wear white for mourning — so it, that matter, a bit of clout one wearing full mourning wherever one may be. The non-Christian thought being that it would make the elder one die too. Of course we've no such belief & were I not to wear the white all the family would be insulted — & non-Christians too would make fun — as disrespectful — so it is a part of "being all things to all men".

4/ at the last place we had quite a time with a Mrs. Chiang. She was faithful to Jesus for a year or more & at New Years didn't worship her ancestors. Her vile cursing temper swelled greatly. Her son for revenge then entered her house, killed her husband & 6 yr. old little boy right before her eyes. This was a deep hatred — last year someone else was having a lawsuit with them so she just decided to fling over her allegiance to Jesus & go back to old way — so she could add her influence in the lawsuit. She also flew the courts & lied & did everything to win her case — She even asked the judge to give her a knife & let her kill her enemy — who was tied up to be executed — She grabbed a cane & began beating herself — till they took her away to stop her! She was just a fiend wanting revenge. I've no taste not much deep hatred — of course she has a course but even so — She was still planning revenge when the Lord called a halt — first when we were there. She had not stopped that finally she feared for her life — then we were able to talk to her — She didn't cover up her sin — but was still unwilling to repent — We left her to decide her course. The next day she sent word that she was going to believe whether living or dying & give up all for Jesus — She was sure & it surely touched Christ and not so far — We & at church were praying for her continually. She has a little girl 13 only. She was much better after a few days — She still could not walk to get to her head for her meals now was able to be up — the last day after she packed up

the dinner of pontze prepared by one of Laurtian's — we went to receive — Sheila not eaten yet and it up. We had the fun of cleaning up new stove, Mrs Law — Mrs Thus mixed flour — inside of Rubbish etc, for the platter — for pontze, I rinsed out a pan full of clothes for her — before long she was having a meal. I thought of the way Jesus used always to be called to clean up the house, not to tell us. She was so happy + couldn't thank us enough. She's taken a public stand for Christ again. Will still she didn't look the same at all — God surely knows just what will bring out to ones senses of value to use the treatment. He loves her too much to let her go on in that — transformed went back to eat the pontze prepared for us — His will and matter. Keeps house for him + we had the joy of praying with her after the meal as she poured out her heart + accepted Jesus as Saviour.

We came on here those few hours on the road were warm + sunny. We'd hardly been here a half hour when a high wind came up!

My, the wonderful grace that God has given us in traveling this winter. Since again it has been the only sunny day in days before + after, but we've had comparatively good days to go. Only one really bad day all winter for our travels. See my postcards gave a Presbyterial date so I'll write a letter to them this P.M. Had a caller this A.M. arranging about a wedding + two others from a nearby Mexican group.

Much love to all my dear ones —
dearest mumsie mine — J Jean

6 Laifang Road
Tsingtao.
April 18, 1936

Dearest Mummie & loved ones:

Mummie dear, well I'm back in Tsingtao - I have been for a week & have been busy - with just what I can't exactly count up but have rested quite a little, visited with folks, seen callers, been out for a few meals & a tea, & a picnic. It has been good to get back & have a relaxation - It was a bit more weary than I'd thought but will get a good rest before we go again! Found four letters waiting me here. Just am always so grateful for them. Then last night about eight another letter came. Four deliveries a day here now. I laughed to think of my five mails in five months. But I'm just as well off!

All have been so nice to me —

treat like a guest when I do come in!
So glad you'd such a nice birthday! That
McClain could be up + Helen. Please give
her my regards! Yes, I hope too that she
will soon be able to come - as He
leads her! I surely know how her heart
must pull for china! There are surely
days that make all think, as plainly,
surely this return isn't so far! So nice
Eula could have you + your birthday
time - now matters I pray will soon be
coming + I'll be thinking of you
sweet Mamie mine! I hope the day
will bring great joy + closeness of the
Master's presence to you! Thanks for
the clippings + news items. Y'all soon
be in the throes of another election -
That means four years nearly gone.
Roosevelt was elected the fall I returned.
Barak have much chance? This always
so "agin what is" - if everyone elects
him he may decide not to be Pres. Lol
If he can do anything to call back
some better conditions, less whiskey
+ less crime - let him try. I say!

less risky for I expect "no whisky" is too much to even expect. Too bad things are so bad — but can't seem to hope for much can we? till The Master comes to settle things. My what terrible floods + suffering! There the Yellow River is still rising, again + those thousands of flood sufferers just been sent back to what's homes + land perhaps still inundated. for reports till of areas still under water! Joan + Stella have been having first-hand touch with it- I don't mind it's but a card at Christmas. A little table like that is most convenient. I'd like to come for your "little table suppers" by your stove, Mumie mine! Yes, Mumie dear, I got the 7.58 check + your 2 sad letters by now telling how I'd spent it on that bit of land — 8 ten with warrant 5.00 + Bessie $1. 7 less of my own. You've surely had some of my mail last. I expect I should number them — Yes there was

was no trouble at all with the check. It's likely returned to you by now! I'll tell them that you send sympathy you need it with the fam. Miss Law said, "Thank You. Glad matters is happier there than here so we can't grieve about her."

Glad Eula & boys are well! Flu! He talks here in the station how had so much illness all winter. They said I was so well in the country third letter all go to the country. Sallie (Mrs. Sauter) is in bed now with bronchitis or her something like that — awfully damp here by sea. She's had trouble all winter so they expect to move to Sinaw in the summer. Good you could be there to care for Eula.

So glad your chinese garment has been so useful! My gardening! our garden is quite a joke. Ruth Kraus so much less than 2 —— & I'm not here — was so glad for the petunia seed, Eula that you put in

your Christmas things. I am using that eye-medicine box + dropper - just what I needed! + towels + soap + all. Thank you so. Found the rooms just a pile of dust on return but were cleaned up now. Mary loaned me a few plants so we look very "homey". So Earl is coming out to be stationed here - no news of him yet here. May hear later. Cheefoo isn't so far - in the same province. Three years will soon be gone - Now shouldn't have tried to send me something - it is too much trouble - Thank you so much!

No news of Betty W. She's safe I'm sure, but I guess Japanese are ruling everything there. Dr Oliver Fr. came from Tientsin - closed up his hospital. Does it make you feel older to be a "great great Aunt!"

Take your gardening slowly! I think they did the reports well. Ella Fenhart + Ruth did the proof-reading + all. It surely was a big favor to ask of them! Nice you could have company a few days - an old student of Mary T's - That is nice. I should write Mary

You just rest your heart about us — We're are safe + well. Now, Shanting is all quiet tho there are rumors. We'll be all safe + well. Do not worry about us! Yes it will be interesting for you to make the scrap books for W.C.S.U. — Too bad things are so bad Mayte Master keep all safe the boys + children from alcohol!

No, I do not have to account for personal gifts that are sent to me to the Board. There is no regulation on that. I can't solicate gifts for myself — but if folks just send me money there is no question + almost all is for the Lord's work — very little do I ever use for myself personally! Sometimes gifts come + are marked to be used personally those I do use. — in rule — but even some of those I've used for others. So there is nothing which could be contrastrary to Board regulations.

You had a big Easter time + fine sermon I'm sure! Glad Emmett's are well!

7

April 18 1934

Your suit of your grey coat sounds good - are suits all style? I haven't gotten or planned anything for spring - haven't even looked at Spring styles. It will be summer when I return — concoct what + that will be my new array! Nice being aunt in country don't need to worry. Pleased tell Bernyce - that I've ordered Elizabeth's pajama, Kimona suit - It had to be made. I found a lovely Kimona so the pajamas & shoes are being made to match but there's no way to get it there sooner than last of June or July - so ask her to be patient please. I'll write Rosburg about the check - or Elnor - before I go out if possible. Eula I'll buy your things in summer.

The stuffed lion parade is likely true all right as the clipping gave - There are many secret preparations for war - but last to be secret! Chiang Kai Shik gave orders that all students must work ten days at manual labor — indirect physical training. Their Izu (Miss Fair) brother came in last night

just exhausted — they'd been making roads. —
Had a dinner with two lovely Chinese families —
at Conradt's — you'd have enjoyed them
Reports of Mme. Chiang + Chiang Kai Shek are
that they're going on as Christian + the public
stand they take. She went to Hankow for
business — was urged to stay over night —
She said "I've an appointment with my husband
at 8 a.m. in the morning". For two years they've
kept quiet time + gotten up for Bible study.
They tell of a large family group that worship
at their home every Sun. That it's quite im-
possible to tell how many Christians there are
in China by church records for there are just
scores of family services held — in homes —
all over China — not officially counted
after Mme. Chiang published statement that only
those saved by blood of Christ can inquire
went to a gospel hall in Szechwan asking
what that meant.

Sat for a thrilling hour to hear
Miss Botelfson tell of their
trip to Kansu + return + all that

the Master just miraculously saved them from. I am wondering if you aren't having more scarehead news of China than anything else. A. Mrs. Stevens just recently returned to China but was held up in San Francisco a month before she was allowed to come because of war in China. So just discount all you hear about 50%. There was no earthly reason for her waiting at all! Read on if you think. Today, I'm having nine guests for lunch — paying back about a half years dinner-debts — Miss Tan is able to help us to direct & help the cooks — it is Chinese food & since I'm no good at that I'm trying to clear up my desk & hurry off this letter to you dear ones!

I've just reread Eula's letter! Will save it till later to write.

Must stop now, set the table & get ready for the guests. Tonight a german girl is coming for supper — She's been really converted — & thru her now a German girl * ruined by an american sailor is being befriended & brought to Him. I'll hear a bit about it tonight — It is wonderful too for Amy to be helping someone else - She can understand what She's going thru as She's been thru — ah just a series of later. dinner went off nicely! I saw P. M. prepared for a guest - Martha Wylie, you've heard me speak of her often & am so glad She's down for over Sunday —

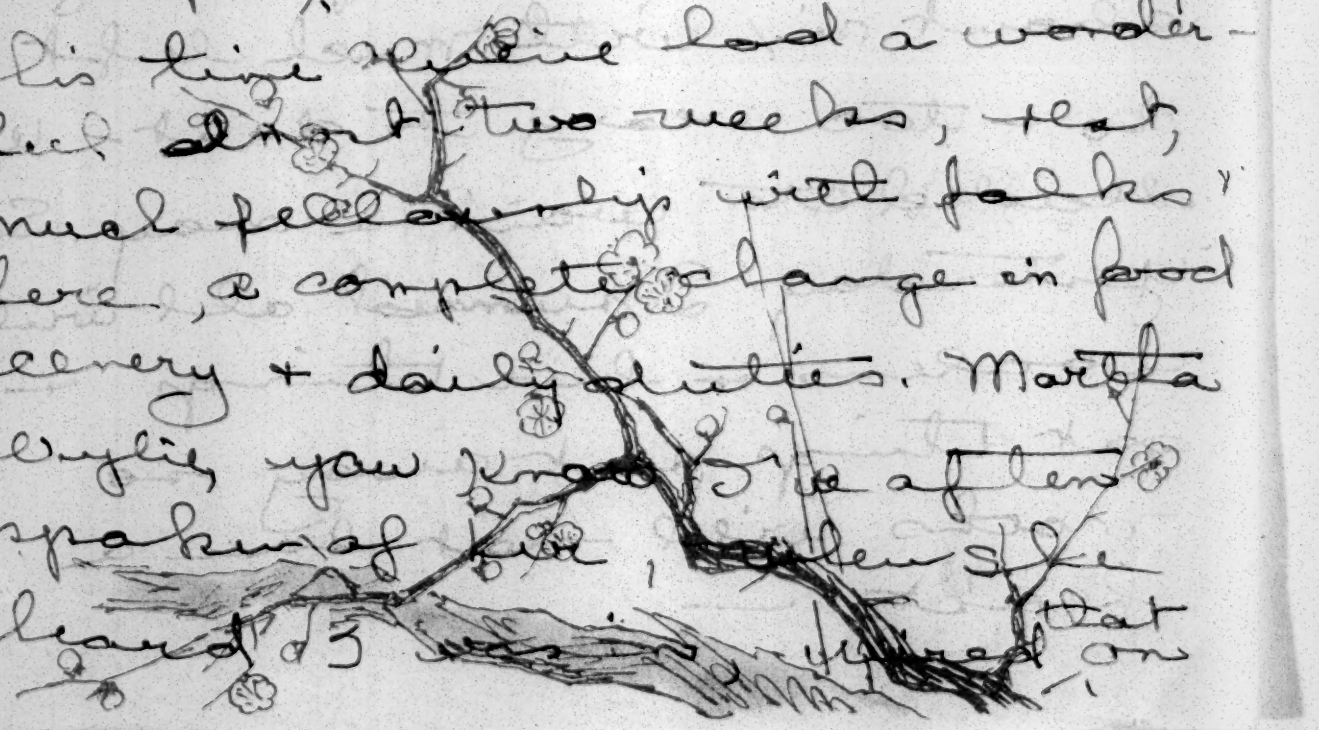
Must close with much love & get this aff -

Irene

6 Tsi Yang Road
April 23, 1934

Dearest Mummie:

We didn't get off yesterday but go today at 11:40 for the first half of our two days trip ahead of us — to Hwo Li Chuang to get the carts left there + flour etc + get fresh carters to take us on the 70 li — to upper part of our field near Pingtu. How I praise God for His love. So often we come in + get delayed by illness or something. This time we've had a wonderful almost two weeks, real, mutual fellowship with folks here, a complete change in food scenery + daily activities. Martha (you know she often spoke of her, I'm sure) heard 3 times + that on



Friday we shld be down. We had a great visit-tid Mon a. m. I'd already sent the rounds to all the homes for a meal + when she came we went again so you see I've had a continuous company dinner. All are just so nice to me. It makes a real vacation, so I'm all set to go this a. m. Planned to leave Wed. but had had guests + callers + trip down town — when we got together about six with much left to do + too weary to do it - We decided to wait a day. So yesterday I rummaged all winter woolens + fur things + got things put away so moths will not have a feast —

3) It was very well that we waited — now can go in peace — till we see fit to come back — am not setting any dates but maybe a couple of months, I'll write right along — hope none will be lost — as we're back to that area from which they were lost before.

Our clubs are all coming out + the places coming on fast now too. We've not seen the big rows of cherry blossoms in Parks but we've bought some buds + they'll bloomed in the house so we've had cherry blossoms too! Mary V. loaned us this lovely Martha Washington to enjoy + they were in lovely bloom + a real treat. Returning them this a.m. See you, must close to praise the Lord.

If you're writing a letter
I'm hoping she'll answer quickly.

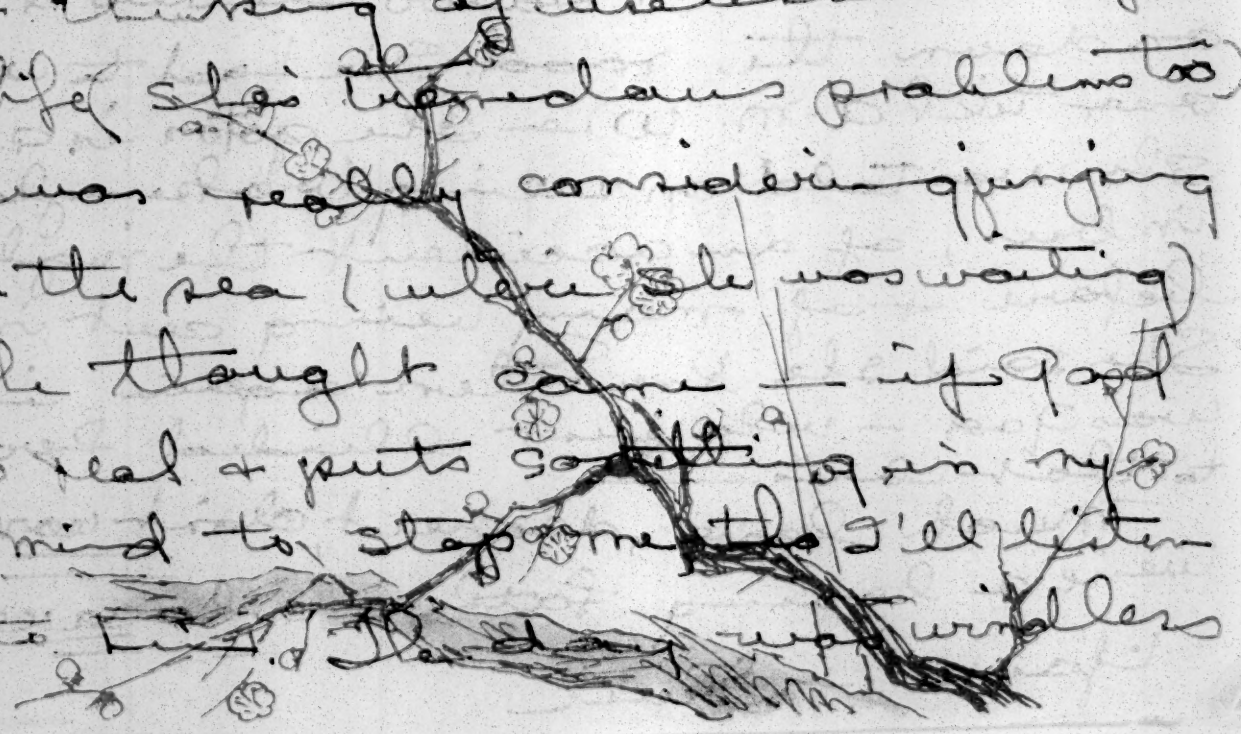
4. Was taught how a lady's escapade here. Two women were going north & a lady sent her cook on with luggage to hold a place in 3rd class & watch baggage! The boats were off schedule but they didn't know it — so that they put it on the boat to Shanghai. While ladies were drinking tea at home the boat took the cook & luggage to Shanghai! He'd gone to sleep I guess. Imagine his sensations on waking! Well, he obeyed he was told to stay with the baggage til they came!

The woman said "She did what she did know he was going he could have done many errands!" He stayed on boat & third day came back!

The little Russian-German Army Lutheran was up & oh she's grown so spiritually & it is such a joy. She was

so truitful + just rejoicing that God had used her to help another girl whose problems she could well understand — Praise God for His love — but oh this world is a mess of sin + suffering + injustice!

The Russian woman who came so often last summer came again + got out a number of sin sick hearts tangled in + spoil her happiness. She told how in the fall she was discouraged + thinking of uselessness of life (she has problems too) + was really considering jumping in the sea (where she was waiting) She thought some — if God is real + puts something in my mind to stop me the I'll listen to Him. Today with twinkles



6/ + was like glass when a sudden gust swirled a paper into her hand — with some such title as in English "How To Live The Christian Life", as it were clearly printed — about faith, praying, confession of sin etc. Strange! far from people + known. It was just God speaking it to her. It called her back; + another time she was waiting for a bus not at Log Shan Mts. Somehow it passed just where she was waiting + she neither heard nor saw it. Later she saw it on down the road. She had to wait over till a.m. When she got on in a.m. She was told on seeing broken glass in bus, of an accident the night before + of many being cut in it. She said she knew then again it was God — who just divided her to that bus —

Much love, dearest, don't worry we've a loving father who cares

Yours — Irene

Hsu Li Chuang
May 5, 1936

Dearest Mummie Mine:

Just a slant letter — so you'll be sure to have a little news at least of your wayward daughter off in big old far away china! I wrote you the day before we left Tsingtao so you know we're off on another "jaunt" to the villages. We had a lovely trip out to Mrs Tsui's home — The wheat up a few inches + making a lovely green carpet over the flat fields. The "Pillar of fire + cloud" that just settled down here + were just now, as the

3| nicely or not as man sees it, it as the Lor willed or at least allowed it so that is all we ask — to be in His plan + will!

No need to worry at all — Not a bad case + no complications etc, so just will pass in passing.

Were packing for an 80 li drive tomorrow — "drive" sounds rather luxurious I should say "juggle" to be more exact — It will take all of the day if we get up for an early start — May have a service there at night — "all the way to Calvary I do want for me" — + that was more than an "80 li juggle" so Praise

2) packing going on in front of me indicates, ready to journey again. The well-known little bug "flu" seemed to be here waiting for us — or else we brought it from Ipingtao. Not terribly bad at all — but enuf to put miss Hsu & me to bed for some days. Miss Hsu had a different form & lighter. Part of the time rain made travel impossible had us been well — That I expect helped us to be more willing about the delay. It has come too just at planting time for spring so it all works out nicely. Anyway

Him for the wondrous joy & privilege of letting us go! If he didn't want us there that would be bitter indeed!

The west courtyard has had the most wonderful peach + plum blossoms. We are just perfect on the beauty. There are two whitewashed rooms in the west courtyard they have fixed. So it is here that I've been lazy these days. I want to get a picture of Miss Tai's mother for you to see. She has been so nice to me.

We went out to see my little piece of land yesterday. It is 13 paces wide — much longer — lat. The renter has put in millet, which he will divide with me. Funny feeling to own a little piece of ground — still

5 I feel it a very temporary awning!
Because I feel this world
itself is so temporary I guess —
I have been reading the
copies of "The Defender" Magazine
that Lauria sent. It
is very interesting. Has lots
of material on Mussolini
& very strong hints that
he may be the anti-Christ.
Surely no one in recent history
so fills the picture in all
its details as he does.
An article on "pyramid" says
this Sept 15 - 17, 1936 is of great
importance in Jewish history.
Will wait & see what —

Am so glad you're so near
Eula — just across the
alley — Hope all are
well — Boys & Margie too!
I think of you often —
Anyone sharing your rooms

[6] now? Maybe the father will be sending someone soon to keep you company!

The carter will mail this after returning from taking us to Ma Sam. Queer, the heavens seem to be clouding up again- I do wonders we will be still further delayed. Maybe there is some reason ahead for our delays.

I must go + persuade Mrs. Law to get Lee's picture - She's worse than Baddy Si used to be - My Master's Han's rooms seem lonely + empty. We go past Lee's courtyard often but don't go in much —

May Master give you great joy + peace + deep contentment - my Master mine.

I loves you heaps!

Lovingly, Irene

Dear Ray + Eula!

Thank you so much for the book "The Gospel in the Stars" that you sent me. Miss Hua brought it out last week. I've heard of it + have wanted so to read it so you may guess how delighted I was to get it. Thank you very much. I read a bit on the train coming up here + have taken a couple of "nap" times to read some more. We've so little time to read — It surely is interesting. I'm not sure so hardly know what to think. If his ~~thesis~~ is true then there is more meaning in Romans ~~about~~ all being in ~~about~~ cause + the revelation in nature etc. It would seem

most logical that God would reveal something to the earlier peoples + not let them grope entirely in dark. These stories from various early peoples looks as if they have had something alike to begin with. God putting into the stars well it is concordant with His glory + majesty all right. I was so thrilled to read elsewhere that the stars give off reverberations of various wavelengths as they rotate that instruments have caught as music! So Job's morning stars singing together is not mere poetry! How much will learn when we see Him face to face.

Eula + Roy I'm mailing some copies of Bible meditation + personal witness of a Mrs. Wilkins who has been used to be a great blessing to many in personal work. If there is something fresh + helpful the postage will not be wasted — I've found some helpful — They're not meant to be doctrinal addresses — just her experience along with what the Lord has to say —

Bye dear loves ones, I keep wondering how boys are + all of you — I think you so much!

— most lovingly, Irene

San Shih Li Pu
Peiping -
May 20, 1934

Dearest Mumsie Mine + all my dear ones there:

Your letter is delayed again but now I've a little time I must get it off. Three days were here of P. O. but the Elders here say it isn't dependable - Sometimes if a letter comes they want money for the delivery — taking off stamps isn't an unknown practice so since mine is a 25¢ one we decided not to risk your letter being lost - letter a few days later. Tomorrow we get to Wang Ye Chuang - It is near the coal's home + maybe we can find a dependable carter to mail it - anyway I'll write trusting that it will reach you eventually. Since your last letter were here to two places - Ma Kow + here. I should have written from Ma Kow as letters go quickly from there but there just wasn't a minute to

of to write. I expected I'd have more time here & have had a lot — but as I said the P.O. has been the delay — well, my Mumsie mine, how are you? all well & all my dear ones? I will have a pile of letters in Irvington — I have been out a month now without mail. Not much chance for another month likely — so I'll have spent when I do get them. It's getting near the wheat harvest — late spring & wheat is late & weather is surely queer — Harvest will be at least two weeks behind last year. Just this last few days have had a cold N.W. wind & it was just by good grace to this region that it didn't rain or hail the latter night. Weather changes are surely noticeably here, for for centuries the harvests & planting time & the festivals of lunar calendar have been almost uncanny in their certainty. Of course festival dates are set from years of experience of past — but the yearly hint to be depended on — seemingly, Another sign of the Master's coming I feel —

How the Master has blessed the trust of His return to the various groups this year! Ma Lan was just wonderful. Such a time we did have. The illness at Hua Li Kuang just held us up till the planting was over + the group was free to just give the day + the night (evening) to meetings — It was glorious but we were a bit weary afterward — One ought not to think of weariness ever + especially not there. Oh the joy of this visit! It was this place at Boyou time that the numbers of families professing belief requested that the official come + promised protection if they would recant. Only one man, Mr. Chin, said he'd be true in spite of all. Once the whole affair was settled, the official's protection was not needed but all of those families permanently went back! That was 1900. That old root was there all the years. The old Mr. Chin + wife were true earnest Christians but after the division of family among the seven families + death of elders + sons going to world war etc — + all went back + back till

They practically did not believe at all - just did it to worship ancestors + go to the temples as non-christians - but in conduct + sins of the heart were real the same as the non-believers.

It was in January 1935 that we arrived — in deep snow - + had such a struggling permission to stay a week — They were so slow coming to ask us to get out of the cart that we knew a bit of their feelings toward us + Christ as well. In the home we were to live Mr Chin was making his winter wine [illegible] They told us this time last they started it several times + pausing said come back "the start" + waited till later + each time we did not come + so he'd they'd decided the snow that day would surely delay us + it would be safe to make it + just then we arrived. They were so upset they'd didn't even eat their noon meal — They told us this time with much laughter for now they are long beyond that stage

We knew ~~there~~ of a little list of the outside of the week of but the inside ~~we~~ had no way of knowing till they told us. We hung up a curtain over the doorless entrance & Mr. Chin thought we were safely out of the way for the night, so filled his little wine pot & squatted in front of the stove to heat it. Miss Dun went outside, he didn't hear her return & said ~~talk~~ jokingly "Mr Chin, having a little feast?" You can imagine his consternation! Next day only place to meet had the whole end out & bitter winter wind first puffed in on heads & backs of people who came down streets. The Holy Spirit surely did quick & deep work in their hearts. They, the Chin families (one of them not there, the 2nd son's never did get very near) had managed the family & wrested out a nice little private fortune before the home estate was divided so naturally preaching of sin didn't appeal to him. They first came because they couldn't help it — but were truly convicted of sin & converted — the seventh Mr Chin while we stayed was in & out of the.

7] meetings, busy with the coming New year matters + thirsty for the wine he was being prevented from drinking! It was the presentation of the Lords returning on P.M. to ~~one~~ Christians from a nearly eternal that was the final blow in his heart + led to his surrender. The week was up + the last night was the break - a number has been pouring out sins thru the week but at that last night the first son (who'd opposed confession of sin, & all about twenty knelt in this middle room) + made a clean-up surrender. It was most amusing the way the 5th son died. He was so under conviction he couldn't stay away yet unwilling to surrender. He'd a habit of stooping a bit + removing up his pants. He'd come again + again + peep in the door + then run (He was due to hold out till just about 1½ hr before the next a.m. but he came that night after all had gone - M. + Beulah) Then came in + said he'd went till we came again - There was a terrific struggle then but he came thru clean + asked for power over the alcohol that he loved so!

That is where we left them in 1935 - just all having taken the first step.

It was going from there that I heard the "angel chorus" while meditating + praising for the miracles of love that it had been given to see. This time she has different reception + the whole story !! Just wonderful memory. On the Hotsonic land, the resettlers built a three-room building for a church - It is private property [+ we sent money used for benches + table only] but built for church purposes. Mrs Chin + other sisters had worked right thru like hired men to build it. There was a meeting place + all the loving welcome. I can pretty well measure ones love to the Master by their treatment of His messengers. The miracles in their lives. They told how last they felt after visit left + all were at the home where we stayed. Mr. Chin said "I'll bet some wine + I'll taste it" - but strange to say it was not good like formerly + all agreed that it was bitter + not good - see the Holy Spirit power - Then they decided just never to drink anymore - experimenting with their new salvation didn't pay -

9. From that time Mr Chin (7th) has rapidly
a drop + the cedar makes him sick. The
elders have taken it only a little
once in a while but
the one to whom it was absolutely a
necessity of life has been quite wonderfully
cleaned up + Spirit filled. His hunger for
Bible teaching + the questions he stored up
to ask the months. Such answers to prayer
God had given them. The brother or a man
who had believed that night in 1935 had an
illness for 25 years - that was healed
by prayer. Then his whole family of
seventeen came to the Master thru
this Mr + Mrs. Chin. We had joy of praying
with them this time. There a little
revival began now. A darling little
boy - three chinese count - six counts -
still round + fat with his pigtail curled in
the school. His parents are non-christian.
He came to confess his sin. We asked him
if he had any sin & he said - "a great many"
We asked how he could believe without
his parents - "I'll just believe anyway"
When they scold me I just don't answer!!!
Truly "revealed to babes & sucklings is
true!" Another young man whose parents

persecutes them, came to pray ——
Paul leaving Ephesus (want it) that all wept.
Was new experience there — Women + girls
hadn't wept before — but the whole
group — students + men + women —
just unashamedly wept outright — like
heart parting. I remember ~~a devotional that~~ a returned missy
for Korea telling of leaving some island
churches + their weeping + wondered
then what would that be like — It —
isn't very pleasant — it hurts but I
tell you that it is not a parting really
but a little time + it is all based
on love for + in Him — a relationship
the world can't conceive. More + more I
understand Paul's care for "the churches"
+ "Gloria" "my little children" + the heartache
for those who fall away or fail to
grow.
Then here Miss Law said from across
the ice box, "The beginning here
was wrong + it has had a chequered
history — none too nice to relate —

and the little hand-ful are a pitiful little band — so cold + indifferent + not much more than half breathing Christians ^ it they are "Christians" at all. fortunately the elder has kept up the big church — built after as big reception of famine-fed Christians who were after the loaves — + who have mostly all died off or repented. The one young man who will help the elder some is living an impure life — They've not had services for over a year — one old lady — don't even be sure she was baptized so you know a bit of the hurt of Master's heart over this place. We can see a little growth in the elder + his wife since our visit 1½ yrs ago but the Master alone knows how + when "dead bones can live again". Non-Christian will house at night; attentive + quiet, but do not come to believe. One few women who professed belief before have apparently heard up their lives — so it isn't strange that others do not make the step. God will not desert this place. His money has been spent here + His Name is here. It must be glorified somehow!

11. It is one of most out-of-way + deadest groups in all our field — + as many sees most hopeless!

You may be led to pray after for San Shih-li Pu. It may be this generation must die off like Israelites in wilderness before others can come — Had a couple of nice days visits from nearby church groups & he away. They are alive + growing but one Mr. Wang has fallen terribly in sin — Tried to sell off his wife for 100 — + then arrange for another one — Feeling in this has arranged for a second wife — All of the church members are just leaving him entirely + none having anything to do with wedding — Two pastors urging failed to stop him, so I fear he will just have to take the consequences of his known sin! You see a bit of the heart ache + a bit of the joys of the days — We love it after cares — like worries over rebellious children + not enuf to eat like some folks but every ten days a group of souls to keep on our hearts + bearing up to Him are a heavy burden — but light too for it is His. We must watch with Him in His agony. The fifth anniversary

are still before him + us!

This P.M. we've had a longer sleep, got up to write this — + are packing + were having a great luxury — Am making fudge! Want a piece. It will be nice for our travels ahead tomorrow — We're going back to all of the new places, new this fall — to see how many are wheat + if the taxes have flown up + etc —

"Ho la! Ho la!" als come + here we meet travel the village roads + see the varied scenes and the day is fresh + the Masters beside, hearts joys and aches — are here for the healing that comes from "Her" —

Tomorrow it will be wheat field + making sundried bricks along the way with trees in tender leaf + not much dust — as our springless cart goes to it 15 miles in 4 hours —

Much love from your gypsy daughter —

Irene

Nan Wang Ke chuang
May 27, 1934

Dearest Mummie + all:

Dearest ones how are you all? well I hope, + everything going nicely? I am reminded of the Chinese way of saying the above - matter of you remember "are you peaceful" or "at peace" to everything harmonious! Mummie do you remember when Mia Tsu would ask in her letters about you - you thought it so funny to be asked if all were "peaceful" -

We've been here a week tomorrow - when will Dad and Tents like the Arabs + ride thy steal away" - - I guess my poetic quotation isn't very apt; Wasn't he referring to death? Well we've no idea of dying - no guns in no circumstance could it be said of our leaving a village - as silently stealing away" for by time the carts arrive + baggage is carried out - + we go out - most of the village has congregated to see us off; You remember how I enjoy seeing people off + on? Well, we get no end of

bed to

2] glorious send off - not that it is anything to our glory — but a custom of this part of China, at least, + quite oriental generally — that habit of seeing folks off! It is a part of that gracious hospitality which makes a guest a very important person + which the village life — living all together + with leisure to do thoughtful things, makes possible — Not to speak of the excitement of, a break
getaway to break a more or less monotonous daily routine — like going to meet every train in Kinhalton for just something to do!!

These days are so long. It is light before four a.m. + soon after one hears the bellows of the chinese stove clicking on all sides + the calls to breakfast come before it is scarcely light! We always feel abused but we can't be too scandalously lazy so we must crawl out — by the time we get our morning routine over — breakfast on et is 6:30 or maybe 7 + that is late! I see last few days to work in the fields has been rushing so mornings were not bad general clean - miss Hua

3 I've had a few girls in gloriette class. It is getting near wheat harvest & the time that ~~is~~ isn't very welcome — Bigtime can't have much from now on — at most two + maybe a few days only a week a day. In middle of day a long nap helps one thru these days. Evening it is nicer to be up time we get out, as all wait till dark to eat. third M. (now 11:15) I've had a grand time. M to. It has a southern courtyard surrounded by a high wall, that is lovely — There are some trees & piles of straw — a big empty place in center which is her threshing floor in harvest time. I came out early — the air was so fresh — fragrant acacia trees are in bloom not far away. I studied Jeremiah in chinese. These days have been so full I've had just no time to do any chinese study — I've never done Jeremiah fully in chinese so I hope to keep it up to the end — I quit lazy mentally & forgot chinese characters if I don't. I want to write now while I've a little time before dinner. Tomorrow is a big temple fair. There all kinds of farm animals, utensils, etc — are sold outside the temple. Some will be going from here so I'll have a chance to —

I send this to the postoffice here. Letters are slow from there but eventually you should get it. I sent one last week by a carrier to the depot master Springtoo — hope you got it.

We are back at one of the newly opened villages of last fall. You may recall the one in which we met in the hall for ancestor tower 30 new believers came out. We came back to see how they are standing. We had had meeting again in the ancestral hall as before + the it is busy time — all of the little group have been there. Some are widen at home & some are away With no Christian background at all but two days this with very little help in between during the months it has been a joy to see how things stood up. There has been persecution + all sorts of gossip + rumors — especially after we took a group picture + rumor said we'd taken their souls + were coming back for money later etc. The family in which we are living is just precious. They are the pillars. Such a sweet spirit in their home + such joy at the Master's coming. Enclosed tickets were gifts + also the

P.S. Mr. Comrad + Carrie are

baptized 13, two complete families —
others of all that came out last fall —
one family (mother, son & daughter) have proved
not entirely but didn't come to be examined
but they're come to meeting & that of
them in love relation that I hope
It is too much to expect all to be "right" but
so far prospect is pretty good. One young man
comes with that she heart given up her life
to be a man not how husband & she confessed
it but hasn't given it up — all was not baptism.
Old lady 71 had gone in with her son at
first - medium practice & was a bit difficult
this time she takes public stand & given it
all up. Her husband died believed too &
died this winter. He prayed up to his death
& really died most peaceably with no suffering
at all. She told how at death a expression
on his face changed to a smile & peaceful
Her grandson had died. It is no end
for these spiritual babies not to judge
reality of Christ by outward circumstances
only. That was a bit too much for
her & she doubted, & the grief was hard to

le ouricane. So far for this coming has been most important. All these age superstitions are so deep rooted — She has for years felt the pulse of the sick — children especially — to be sayings mediums — but broadening point — because Sled told them to make to some certain ideal, burn paper etc + it would attain real aim just as the soul — Etc — the old lantern worships. Thus they offer the presents of real food or edibles etc to feast entities — in return payment. For one whose daily diet has not much variety + tasty food + theirs is especially lacking) it is all in the temptation to carry it on.

P.M. This little old lady just came in to ask about the above. A baby only baby in family ill + they'd brought a mule for her to ride to see it — She came to see if she could go — She promised just to massage + not [illegible] them to offer at temples as we told her to do on Sled decided not to help with babies in future if [illegible] said so but that is alright. She a dear old lady + so full of joy!

A big tear just went around. The what is just now getting ripe + hail + wind [illegible] we [illegible] prayed for. mercy again + Spirits help [illegible]

7/ The margin of existence is so so small
The failure of one crop makes suffering.
Praise God for answered prayer. An old gentleman here believed last fall + was most eager student — reading Bible hours then we heard that he had said he didn't believe. These days were prayed often for him. Yesterday came word that he was baptized + is again reading his Bible.
How we thank the Heavenly father — who just works on in the hearts — surely John 3 says it — Holy Spirit is like wind" blows where it listeth". Three nephews of the man who gave himself up to Isaiah rather than have his little triplets taken — came to confess sins + take steps of believing. They are in a difficult position; the father doesn't believe but they insist they will not worship the ancestors even if he forces them. Were it not for the wonderful power of God Himself to hold them — one would surely lose heart — like leaving lambs to the wolves.
Miss Law had a spell of vomiting — diahrea from which she hasn't recovered yet. My! but she was sick + feverish that night. We had no way but just to cry to God to heal her that night that stopped + in a.m. after

prayer the fever left. My there years our faith has grown a little — It needed to!! but there is a force in Her need to pull one's faith on — when there is just no other way + how wonderfully God never fails!

Will go to one place for over Sunday + then another week + will be going in to Miss Lois home to get things + I may stay to write a bit on the reports waiting then go in to Ringlas. ~~there~~ village living adjustment. I haven't had any mails now for seven weeks — hope then to get your letters. How sweet Master's provision. I'd given Mr. C. my box of ordinary Metrodia needles + bought 9 chromes, supposed to play 100 times without change. How they played out — need no needles + that Metrodia is our hell, annoyance, indispensible! We prayed for needles — Mr. C. came along + we asked him if he had needles! He had an extra box + how we praised God for the provision + the leap of grace + blessing, Le prisun + the joyful coming for Him to these villages.

My dear ones must must love to each of you. Lil's little boy here reminds me of Richard. Enid I'll get your things slowly this summer — am not sure what I'll do vacation — must love to but most of July in conference maybe all — there

Give much
love to you
new Spring
darlies!
Yours truly
Lid crept
with Dad
Better
have a
nap
Father
I took all
your photos
to my clinic
family
Flew enjoyed
them so!
Love Jess

6 Tsi Yang Road
Tsingtao, Shantung
June 20, 1936

Dearest Mumie:

Your letter is late again — I was a week at Min Tsui at Hua Li Chuang after our last village writing up events + all of the year. My personal report, part of which will get printed later to send you. I came back in Mon. night — we attempted to get the noon train (Ruth + Gardner) went to meet it but our watch was only 1½ hr. slow!! Pop you will get funny over that I expect but were not always so slow. It stopped Sun. eve + so we had a good laugh over our being so speedy! We waited at an inn + had our lunch + got the

evening train. The cook came in for the mail - that was when I last wrote + brought out two months letters - It was so good to hear - I just praise God that you're all well. Those days I was in deep in the report so I didn't write + since I've come in there has been a regular circle of events - getting all things done up for Mission meeting, physical exams - reports etc. Coming home this time was just a delight. I had had the cook come in on trial etc. So he had Sat + Monday to clean house + it was so nice to come to a clean orderly home, + have a meal ready! We have three lovely yellow rose bushes that have many many tight golden buds I'd missed them last year but here this year I came just in time + we didn't miss out on

3) strawberries after. This week we've eaten just pounds! Mr. Uan was down to meet us at the train in his car + so we were royally [illegible] Ella G. came over before we were finished + she helped eat up the "poo tzu" - then other callers came in + I finally got into tub at 9:30 + went out when Ruth + Roberta came up - so it was a nice long day 39 m → 11. Marie C. brought over flowers + so you see the Father's sweet provisions! You need never worry at all about me! This Roberta you'll hear me referring to often. She is Gardner Lewis-burg's sister in C. J. M. who is just being married here this summer to a C. J. M. man. She is a darling girl! Found two more letters waiting here on my return. I thank you so for the gifts you sent by Earl, I found the

4) box on the mantle so I knew he'd come. Butt wasn't sure how to get him + the next day just as I was pondering how I'd go about reaching him Mr Vaw, who had asked us over for strawberry shortcake, came over to say that he'd also another guest whom I'd not seen for a long time but wouldn't tell me who. Later he told me he'd invited Earl! Seems that he'd met Earl wandering around up here + inquired who he was + where etc. He took the phone number of the military guard station where he is located. So called him + he came for supper. It was surely thoughtful + nice of him to remind him. Now Earl is raving for Chinese food here this noon. He's never eaten it so

That is Mrs Clara N Cooper, 332 E. Main St.
Titusville, Pa.

for. I'can't conceive being in any country so often + never long tried to taste their food. Maybe he's had no chance + orders to be careful of pernicious eating has something to do with it - There is a guest from Cheefoo at Van's so am inviting them, Roberta is another C. I. M friend here (Clara in Col. sister living in Dallas) so they're coming. Will use the waterlily luncheon set remember mother — It looks so pretty with my pale green chop-sticks — my love to give Earl a fork but will see ——
I'm trying to send this off now before the meal - for I do not like to delay your letter any more than necessary.

6.] Mon - a meeting all day —
Wed go to Chow Tsun — up the R. R. for
a weeks conference — a Regional
conference of delegates from all Shan-
tung. It will be hot I fear but
seems best to go — may be
called off a bit by then.

Well that surely was a big
surprise to get a bit of the Union
Savings money; I had just counted
it gone. Did Roy get some too?
I have sent it to my acct at
mission Treas. in Shanghai + have
asked them to make out a draft
for 100.00 + mail to you. I'll keep
the balance here. Now matter
mine this 100. is for you — The
fun is to pay what I owe you on
postage, pictures, envelopes etc.
This 100. is on my debt of #500.00
Now you just take it + be

7 just free to use it as you want for it is yours. I don't want you to have it - debt or not - but I know you'll feel better to call it debt so just use it. I don't like you to feel skimped + uncertain + matter-mine don't you ever ever say again about you hate to "sponge" on your children! Matter dear, what on earth - how you can think of our doing what is our right + privilege after all your years of unstinted, unthinking self sacrifice for us - now that we can give you love-gifts don't ever let that thought enter your mind "as sponging!" The thing is that we do too little. It makes me feel badly that it is so little - my dear precious mumsie mine. Just use it + the monthly money with praise for the loving

8] father's care + don't let the joy of our giving it be spoiled by your feeling that we ought not or you're sponging! What love we done all of these growing years - & the little we can do cannot ever repay the years of love - for love can't be paid for! I can't even be returned but just is deep treasure in the heart to share with others.

Bertha's money order Lonny, please you cash & send to me by personal check because it is a local money order not a foreign order We couldn't cash it here yesterday. Please thank Lette for me too very much. For letting me spend it for her in His vineyard -

Ruth's 2 little girl just came home from the hospital - appendicitis

9/ She is such a darling kiddie & am glad she has gotten along so well.

There is a miss Hsü, the principal of the girls school here going to U.S. to study next year. She will land in Seattle & the lautensalagers who have been interested in helping her thought my home was Seattle — She needs someone to meet her & help her thru that awful first strangeness She speaks English all right but I thought at once of Laurin Anna & if she is not there Berta & Aunt Ella perhaps could. I doubt had time to visit with Miss Hsü yet but will. I'll just assume that they'll be glad to do this bit to help in Christ's name & will give their names etc. Suppose you write her — I'll get the dates it I can to

10) (along front of Sept.)
Enclose in this so shall be sure to know + to be there. There is nothing quite so wonderful as to be met + lucared for under utter strange circumstances I'll never forget the Chinese manager of the Missionary Home who did so wonderfully for us on first + also second arrival. I'm sure some of our dear Templetons in Seattle can help her. Is Mrs. Grace Bliss still Presbyterial President - She'd be glad to help too I'm sure -

Thank you Roy for your care + trouble over going to Portland etc for my Union Savings money. Mumsie you better fill his gas tank out of that fund for me, I wrote along with the receipt that I was giving your authority to do for me in my absence. It was nice of them to send it over,

II I'm going to enclose a tract about giving to the Jews. This came to me along at Christmas — Well I took the same resolution — to give more to Jews + sent some money — here comes my Union Saving. Coincidence? maybe — maybe not.

That's good that Dr. Smith has paid up! That is good that he is keeping it up so well + improving it. That money you can likely count on — I surely do hope that that land will sell. seems to look promising. I'll sure hope you'll clean up your place — now after you get it all cleaned — don't leave it to clean scatter ha!

Was so glad to know that at last were in touch with a rabbit-wool buyer. Wonder thinking we'd maybe have trouble but this English firm will take it will now to find a cheap way of getting the wool there —

12] Sorry the reports were short; I'll get 200 printed then next time Sorry they were short. I hope to find a more satisfactory place. May have a picture of the three of us printed if it doesn't cost too much - & the picture we've taken is good. Send to that on my return.

Master I've gone over the list of names I've here — unless you know maybe a letter from them etc — cut off there. I think it won't hurt & send more to the church groups — So Warren gets a le-no. leave — Maybe Master lead him someplace where he can speak to him somehow.

Yaid enjoyed our eating the cake. We went back once & all three of us ate — even the crumbs & then I left a bite in the tin so I could have it after we were all thru. Haig cook bring out some postum & we ate the remainder two days just

bites at a time ! I'd saved a few pieces of Buds + Bennie's chocolates + we finished them to finish at the last - so we surely enjoyed the gifts to the limit.

Sun P.M. - Wed card came for dinner (Chinese) + we had eight all together. He seemed to enjoy it - Went out to shop with him last night. When he left he wanted to come + bring another sailor to have strawberry shortcake Sun P.M. - My summer may more or less be filled with sailors - but If I can do something to help keep the kid straight it will be worthwhile I'm sure - will try to fill them up with cake - My hair isn't all gray yet but maybe don't worry about it - Honey - you'll know me ! We are a surprise the eight year term is now moved back

174 again to seven years - so many
more that means a year less for you
that means my term is now just about
half up. 2 more winters -
+ then the next June - if the Lord
tarries that long + we don't
meet before.

Mrs. I. V. Olsen, Apartado 289
San José Costa Rica, Central
America.

Nice you'd a visit at Buds - Margie
must be a dear kiddie,

I find Elizabeth's gift isn't here yet.
He says it is finished in Shanghai +
he's going down for it. We ent to
check up again on it last night
but the okay has moved, a black
silk pajama suit she wanted -
I do hope Helen MacClintock be
able to come - if that is God's will
for her - matter don't worry about
late letters - yours always are
so regular + waiting for me.